Docket. No.: 238397US-2 DIV Inventor: Natsuko NOBUKUNI Appln. no. 10/657,121

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 40-50 are presently active in this application. Original Claims 1-39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claim 40 has been amended.

In light of the above, an early and favorable examination on the merits as to the presently active Claims 40-50 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, PC

Gregory J. Mailer

Registration No. 25,599

Attorney of Record

Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.

Registration No. 40,440

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 GJM/RFC/jmp